Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NEW DE 09351 121640Z

53
ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 IO-03 NSC-07 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 OMB-01

CIEP-02 PRS-01 L-02 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 SP-02 DRC-01 SSO-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 EA-13 OPR-01 NEAE-00 /089 W
---------- 101361
O R 121730Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2664
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T NEW DELHI 9351

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, PK, IN, PINS, PINT
SUBJECT: PAKISTANI REPORTS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY IN INDIA,
PARTICULARLY KASHMIR

REF: NEW DELHI 9242

SUMMARY: INDIA HAS USED THE HOT LINE IN WHAT IT BELIEVES
A SUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO REDUCE PAKISTANI CONCERNS ABOUT ALLEGED
INDIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS IN KASHMIR. BASED ON FURTHER CHECKS,
WE CONCLUDE THAT THE KASHMIR VALLEY IS NORMAL EXCEPT PERHAPS
FOR SOME ADDITIONAL IOLICE AND MILITARY IN SRINAGAR FOR LAST
WEEK'S CONFERENCE OF THE PLEBISCITE FRONT. INDIA HAS REIN-
FORCED ITS MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE JANNU REGION OVER THE
PAST TEN MONTHS, BUT THIS WAS COMPLETED AT LEAST SEVERAL
WEEKS AGO AND MAY HAVE BEEN SIMPLY
NORMAL MILITARY REALIGNMENT.
POLITICALLY, MRS. GANDHI AND THE KASHMIR MUSLIM LEADER,
SHEIKH ABDULLAH, HAVE MADE PROGRESS TOWARD AN ACCOMMODATION,
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 NEW DE 09351 121640Z

BUT WE BELIEVE AT LEAST A FEW MONTHS OF HARD NEGOTIATIONS AT

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

A MINIMUM ARE NECESSARY TO REACH A FINAL AND FORMAL AGREEMENT.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE HOT LINE: FOREIGN MINISTRY PAKISTAN DIVISION JOINT SECRETARY ASHOK CHIB TOLD THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR JULY 12 THAT THE INDIAN ARMY DIRECTOR OF MILITARY OPERATIONS AHAD SPOKEN WITH HIS PAKISTANI COUNTERPART WITHIN THE PAST 36 HOURS IN AN EFFORT TO DIFUSE AND RELIEVE APPARENT PAKISTANI CONCERN. THE TWO OFFICERS HAD EXCHANGED VIEWS AND ASSURANCES ON THEIR RESPECTIVE MANEUVERS AND OPEARTIONS. CHIB SAID HAT THE PAKISTANI SIDE APPEARED RELIEVED AND SATISFIED AND THE INDIA BELIEVED ANY MISUNDERSTANDING HAD DEEN CLEARED UP. THE PAKISTANIS, ACCORDING TO HIM, WERE PLEASED THAT INDIA TOOK THE INITIATIVE TO HKKE THE APPROACH ON THE HOT LINE.

2. THE MILITARY SITUATION: ACCORDING TO CHIB, THE SITUATION BEGAN AT THE END OF MAY, WHEN PAKISTAN PLACED THE SIND BORDER UNDER E MILITARY "TO CONROL SMUGGLING". INDIA WAS SUSPICIOUS. THEN IN JUNE PAKISTAN CONDUCTED MANEUVERS IN THE PUNJAB ON A SOMEWHAT LARGER SCALE THAN IN THE PAST. CHIB MAINTAINED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO MAJOR CHANGES IN INDIAN DEPLOYMENT, ALTHOUGH INDIA HAD ALSO CONDUCTED POST-SPRING HARVEST MANEUVERS AND REALIGNMENT OF FORCES. CHIB TOLD THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR THAT THE GOI BASICALLY BELIEVES THAT THE DISTRUBED AND UNEASY POLITICAL SITUATION IN PAKISTAN WAS ESSENTIALLY BEHIND THE RECENT FLURRY OF PAKISTANI PUBLIC CHARGES ABOUT KASHMIR, AFGHANISTAN AND INDIAN MILITARY BUILDUP. HE CITED THE NUMBER OF SENIOR PAKISTANI OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BHUTTO, AS DIRECTLY RELATING A LOOMING "EXTERNAL THREAT" AND KTHE IMIORTANCE OF MAINTAINING "INTERNAL UNITY" IN PAKISTAN.

JEM THE KASHMIR VALLEY: TO EXPAND ON REFTEL, BRITISH MILITARY ADVISOR IN A TWO-WEEK VISIT TO BOTH JAMMU AND THE KASHMIR VALLEY WHICH ENDED ONLY TWO DAYS AGE FORUND EVERYTHING NORMAL. HE OBSERVED INDIAN UNITS DOWN TO THE BATTALION LEVEL. UNITS HELD RETIREMENT PARADES AND SENIOR OFFICERS WENT FISHING. NORMAL PRE-MONSOON MANEUVERS AND RESUPPLY WERE UNDERWAY. AN EMBASSY
SECRET

SECRET

OBSERVER IN SRINAGAR LAST WEEK NOTED MANY ARMED POLICEMEN, AND THE BRITISH MILITARY ADVISOR OBSERVED MANY MILITARY IN THE CITS, BUT THESE CAN BE RELATED TO THE JULY 5 TO 7 CONFERENCE OF THE PLEBISCITE FRONT.

4. JAMMU: THE COMMENTS OF THE BRITISH MILITARY ADVISOR COVER JAMMU AS WELL. HOWEVER, HIS AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS CONFIRM A REALIGNMENT OF INDIAN FORCES OVER THE PAST TEN MONTHS WHICH

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

HAS INCREASED INDIA'S MILIARY PRESENCE IN JAMMU. THE 10TH
DIVISION MOVED FROM PATHANKOT TO AKHNUR, AND ELEMENTS)BUT NOT HQ)
OF THE 39TH DIVISION TO SOMEW ERE NEAR PATHANKOT. ALSO, THE 14TH
INDEPENDENT ARMORED BRIGADE HAS MOVED WITHIN THE LAST TWO
MONTHS FROM AMBALA, WHERE IT HAD BEEN UNDER CANVAS, TO JAMMU.

(SWARAN SING TOLD AZIZ AHMED LAST MARCH INDIANS WERE
PLANNING ON MOVING SOME UNITS FROM TENTS TO NEW CANTONMENTS
IN BORDER AREA). THESE MAY BE NORMAL ADJUSTMENTS--
THE MOVE OF THE ARMORED BRIGADE MAY HAVE SIMPLY BEEN
DICTATED BY THE APPROACHING MONSOON. THE MOVES WERE COMPLETED
IN ANY CASE BY TWO OR THREE WEEKS AGO, IF NOT BEFORE.
THEY DO GIVE HE GOI GREATER CLOUT IN JAMMU SHOULD THE HINDU
MAJORITY THERE REACT VIOLENTLY TO AN ACCOMMODATION WITH SHEIKJ
ABDULLAH (SEE BELOW)--BUT IT PROBABLY HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH
CLOUT THERE FOR THAT PURPOSE ANYWAY.

5. OTHER INDIACTIONS: AN INDIAN AIR FORCE SOURCE TOLD KOUR
AIR ATTACHE JULY 12 THAT THERE WAS NOHING TO THE PAKISTANI
SUSPICIONS. HE NOTED MONSOON HAD HIT KASHMIR AND THAT IT
PRECLUDED GROUND OPERATIONS. THE MINISTER OF TOURISM ANNOUNCED
JULY 8 THAT THE GOI HAD OPENED UP LADAKH TO INDIAN TOURISTS
FOR THE FIRST TIME, A MOVE IT WOULD NOT TAKE IF IT EXPECTED
OSTILITIES WITH PAKISTAN AND POSSIBLE CHINESE SUPPORT.

6. POLITICAL SITUATION IN KASHMIR: WE ARE DISPATCHING TODAY
AN AIRGRAM ON IROSPECTS FOR AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN SHEIKH AB-
DULLAH AND MRS. GANDHI WHICH WOULD PUT HIM BACK IN POWER IN
KASHMIR. IT CONCLUDED THAT, WHILE THERE
HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMMODATION BETWEEN
THE TWO AND THERE IS PROSPECT FOR FURTHER PROGRESS, WE DOUBT
THAT THIS WILL RESULT IN FULL AND FORMAL AGREEMENT IN THE
NEAR FUTURE.
SECRET

SECRET

7. TALKS LAST YEAR BETWEEN SHEIKH ABDULLAH'S DEPUTY,
MIRZA AFZAL GEG, AND MRS. GANDHI'S CONFIDANT, FORMER
NEHRU UNIVERSITY VICE CHANCELLOR G. PARTHASARATHY WERE FOLLOWED
RECENTLY BY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SHEIKH ABDULLAH HIMSELF AND
FOREIGN MINISTER SWARAN SINGH. NOW BEG AND PARTHASARTHY ARE
REPORTEDLY DISCUSSING WHICH INDIAN LAWS SHOULD APPLY IN
KASHMIR. THIS INDICATES THAT, WHILE SHEIKH ABDULLAH PUBLICLY
DECLARES THAT THE GOI MUST AGREE TO RETURN TO THE CONSTI-
TUTIONAL POSITION BEFORE HIS ARREST IN 1953 (WHEN NEW DELHI
HAD BASIC RESPONSIBILITY ONLY FOR DEFENSE, COMMUNICATIONS
AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS), HE IS IN FACT PREPARED TO AGREE IN
ADVANCE TO
EXTENSION OF GOI LAWS IN SOME OTHER AREAS. THE
NEXT BEG-PARTHASARTHY MEETING IS JULY 16.

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

8. AT THE JULY 5-7 CONFERENCE OF THE PLEBISCITE FRONT,
SHEIKH ABDULLAH'S POLITICAL ORGANIZATION, HE AND BEG WITHDREW
E DEMAND FOR PLEBISCITE AND SAID OTHER METHODS OF ASCER-
TAINING THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE COULD BE EXPLORED. BEG HAD
SAID AS MUCH BEFORE BUT NOT TO THE PLEBISCITE FRONT, AND THIS
MIGHT LEAD TO A CHANGE IN THE NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION.
ABDULLAH AND BEG DECLARED THEIR DETERMINATION TO PURSUE THIER
NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOI BUT PROMISED TO SEEK THE APPROVAL
OF THE PEOPLE OF KASHMIR FOR ANY SETTLEMENT.

9. WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF AGREENENT YET ON SOME IMPORTANT
DETAILS--HOW THE SHEIKH, THE PLEBISCITE FRONT AND THE CONGRESS
PARTY IN THE STATE WILL COOPERATE AND WHETHER THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO IMPOSE PRESIDNET'S RULE ON THE
STATE, FOR EXAMPLE. ALSO, AT THE PLEBISCITE FRONT
CONFERENCE BOTH BEG AND ABDULLAH MENTIONED VAGUELY THE NEED
TO ASSOCIATE PAKISTAN WITH A SOL-
UTION, WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY
RANKLES WITH THE GOI. FINALLY, THE MILITANT JANA SANGH
PARTY IS STRONG IN THE JAMMU PORTION OF THE STATE AND HAS
ANNOUNCED ITS OPPOSITION TO ANY REVERSAL OF THE PROCESS OF
INTEGRATION OF KASHMIR INTO INDIA, WHICH IS WHAT A REVERSION
TOWARD THE 1953 SITUATION WOULD CONSTITUTE.

10. THE GOI IS PUTTING THE BEST LIGHT ON THE PLEBISCITE
SECRET

SECRET

FRONT CONFERENCE, AND SOME JOURNALISTS IN DELHI SPECULATE
THAT AGREEMENT BETWEEN SHEIKH ABDULLAH AND THE GOI IS NEAR.
OUR VIEW IS THAT AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE AND EVEN PROBABLE BUT
THAT IT IS TOO SOON TO SAY THAT IT'S AROUND THE CORNER.
A FEW MONTHS OF HARD NEGOTIATIONS AT A MINIMUM WILL BE NECESSARY,
WE BELIEVE. THE CANADIAN DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER CONCURS IN
THIS CAUTIOUS CONCLUSION BASED ON THE DIVERGENCE IN VIEWS
HE FOUND IN CALLS ON SHEIKH ABDULLAH AND THE (CONGRESS) CHIEF
MINISTER OF THE STATE ONLY THREE WEEKS AGO.
SCHNEIDER

SECRET

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, MOBILIZATION, MILITARY BUILDUP, AGREEMENT DRAFT, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, MILITARY EXERCISES, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL LEADERS, NEG OTIATIONS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NEWDE09351
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740186-1214
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740753/aaaabtrq.tel
Line Count: 211
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: NEW DELHI 9242
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAKISTANI REPORTS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY IN INDIA, PARTICULARLY KASHMIR
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, PINS, PINT, PK, IN, (GANDHI, INDIRA), (ABDULLAH, SHEIKH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005